

Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library

Churches (WV)
Dupin crusade attracts 400 to banquet
December 4, 1985
Community Affairs File

By Mary Jo Butts
Tribune-Star Correspondent

BRAZIL — The Clyde Dupin Evangelistic Crusade kick-off banquet brought more than 400 people together Tuesday night at Adami's Restaurant.

Members from a variety of county denominations gathered for food and fellowship.

Introduced as "God's Man of the Hour," Dupin asked the audience to set goals for the March 16-23 Clay County crusade. "If we really pray and join hearts and hands, we'll see a spiritual awakening in this county as never before," he said.

Involved in a reach-out ministry for 20 years, Dupin conducts interdenominational crusades throughout the world.

For several weeks, religious leaders from the community have worked on commit-

tees planning the crusade. The banquet signaled the beginning of total community involvement, Dupin said. "Jesus Christ is going to visit this city in a great way — but you must get involved."

Dupin challenged all denominations to work together for a successful crusade. "Many people will never go to a church, but they will come to a crusade. If we are part of God's family — let's all be friends and work together," Dupin said.

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Sp DEC 1 1 1976

Terre Haute
Christian Center

religion

Churches (T.H.U.)

Alaskans establish Terre Haute mission

By Peter Donahue

They sold their igloos, kayaks and snowshoes, loaded a few necessities on the family dogsleds, then mushed from Anchorage, Alaska, to Terre Haute, Indiana.

Once in Terre Haute, they traded a few seal skins for a crumbling white edifice, even though the five families and the one single girl didn't know why they were in Terre Haute.

"It took ten gallons of spackle to fill the holes and cracks in this place. This particular room was painted purple," says Kim Bristol, pastor of the newly-established Terre Haute Christian Center.

"This is not communal living. The families sold everything, cashed out of pensions . . . everyone gave up a nice home and a career . . . and then tithed out of whatever amount they ended up with. Now everyone tithes to support the center, but has their own home and job.

"We don't think we're hot stuff. We don't even know why we're here, but without a shadow of a doubt this is where God wants us," Bristol said.

The families arrived in Terre Haute this past summer, after almost a year of planning, meeting and preparing. Says Bristol, "Our coming here wasn't haphazard. The church we came out of has 30 elders who kept a check on me, and ok'd the move.

"The church we left is non-denominational with a congregation of about 1500. Some 30 other churches like us have been started from the church in the last three years, in Washington, Florida, Indiana and one in Indonesia."

Although the church the families left gave them the down payment on their building (Max Lynch's old church on the corner of Fifth and McKeen), Bristol says "We are under no obligation to them, and are definitely not missionaries to Terre Haute, or on an Exodus.

"About a year and a half ago the Lord laid Terre Haute on my heart. I didn't want to come here at all. My wife lived here about twenty years ago, and didn't want to come here either.

"But we took a vacation in the area to check the lay of the land, and fell in love with it.

"I just love this town. It's not different as far as the people go. It's a big town, but has a small town atmosphere," says Bristol.

Four years ago Bristol was a lieutenant in the Anchorage fire department, and "content to warm a pew and finish the second half of a twenty year retirement plan."

Says Bristol, "I thought I'd do something for the Lord after I retired. But God called me through a prophecy directed at me, so I entered the Bible school the church had, studied to show myself approved, and was ordained as a minister about a year ago.

"The move to Terre Haute wasn't a transfer, and we weren't hired to come.



Pastor Bristol and his flock.

Photo by Godfrey

Some wanted to come to Indiana, and some said they felt they were supposed to go with me wherever I went. The Lord directed us here, so here we are.

"We bought this place to build a solidly scriptural new testament church. Not traditional, but scriptural. One has to be careful - you can become so undenominational that you become a denomination," says Bristol.

Although the families didn't really live in igloo apartment houses in Anchorage, the temperature and climate are considerably colder than in Terre Haute.

"We've had very little trouble in adjusting to Terre Haute. Our bodies are completely acclimatized. One sister is 100 per cent Eskimo, and has no problems.

"Everyone is adjusted, has a home and a job. In Anchorage, two of us were firemen, one installed fire alarms, one owned a bookstore, and one brother even got out of the military, which was a work of God in itself. That's one job you don't just pick up and leave anytime you want.

"Now one brother goes to Ivy Tech, one is an installer for GTE, and another brother is taking some Bible school courses. I had a forty hour a week job, but now I'm working full time for the Lord."

The families at the Terre Haute Christian Center may not know why they are in Terre Haute, but they do know what they are supposed to be doing.

"The purpose of the local church is to save souls, get them rooted and grounded in the Word of God, and that's our purpose. In the future there will also be a Bible school and a Christian day school.

"We were well received by the Christian community . . . but sometimes people think we're in competition with them. There is no competition when you're working for the Lord. No one is going to sneak up behind you and drag you bound and gagged in the Center.

"We don't want people to think we think we have it all together. We're just trying to walk in as much truth as possible," says Bristol.





Farmer's Chapel Community Church

Photo by Orth

Churches (Vigo Co.)

A church withstands the test of time

Sp JUN 1980

By Frances E. Hughes

Over a span of 114 years, through changes and problems, as well as progressive times, the Farmers Chapel Community Church has survived.

Organized in the year of 1866 in Honey Creek Township, Vigo County, it was first called the Farmer's Chapel Class. The organizational meeting was held at the home of John Owens, about one mile southeast of the present site of the church.

Charter members were John and Sarah Ryman, Jeremiah and Rebecca Hayworth, William and Nancy Yeager, Tilden and Minerva Hayworth, John and Phoebe Owen, Alexander and Ellen Moore, Washington and Malinda Hess, Isiah Adams, Jane Cruse, George Berkebile, Daniel Miller, Hiram and Laura Sparks, Joseph and Jane Adams. George, David and Clinton Boyll.

Twenty-five members in all banded together to worship. Jeremiah Hayworth was chosen class leader. During the first four years, others joined the group.

In 1870, the class started to build a frame church near the Owen homestead. John Owen, John Ryman and Alexander Moore were chosen trustees. The Rev. Ira Master was one of the first pastors.

The frame building was moved to the location of the present church in 1874.

Many pastors served the church over the years. They included the Revs. M. O.

Mumford, H. James, Charles Goss, Robert Piety, Deane Ferguson, J. L. Brandenburg and Dale Cottom, who was ordained a minister of the Evangelical United Brethren Church there.

The present pastor is the Rev. Samuel Boyll, and the assistant pastor is the Rev. Kent Crandell.

The Rev. Boyll has been pastor since 1973. He is an ordained Methodist Minister, and the Rev. Crandell is a Baptist minister. Since the church, which was formerly an Evangelical United Brethren Church, is now interdenominational, it has had pastors of different denominations over the years.

The Rev. Boyll was a teacher and coach for 47 years in Honey Creek Township, at Thornton and Woodrow Wilson Schools. He retired from teaching in 1972, and over several years preceding that served as pastor of area churches. He was preceded as pastor of Farmers Chapel by the Rev. Russell Taylor, a Methodist minister.

With the gradual increase in members of the church in the early 1900s, it was decided that larger quarters were needed. Under the pastorate of the Rev. Brandenburg, a new brick church was built at a cost of approximately \$27,000. Trustees at that time were George Stout, Charles and Herman Harlan.

Bishop Fout dedicated the new church on June 12, 1920, and this church with

Continued on next page

Church celebrates centennial

By Frances E. Hughes

In the program for the 1966 Centennial of the Farmers Chapel Community Church were a few suggestions on etiquette, household hints, recipes and observations supplied by members of the congregation that are interesting.

These were of the early 1900s era.

For instance, it was suggested "Make the work as light as you can for it is hard enough at its best."

Also, "A lady should not go on the street at night unattended." This still holds good, except for different reasons.

Under "Etiquette of 1905" are two suggestions: "A gentleman who has rendered any assistance to a lady must, as soon as the service is over, bow respectfully and pass on," and "A lady in crossing a muddy street should raise her dress gracefully, with one hand, only to the top of her shoes."

A helpful household hint was "To make windows sparkle, add a pinch of bluing and a couple of tablespoons of kerosene to a pail of hot soapsuds."

A suggested typical Sunday menu for the day in September of 1905 was melon, sago, vegetable hash, broiled veal cutlets, fried tomatoes and coffee for breakfast; sliced ham, biscuits, baked pears, cake and tea for lunch, and broiled prairie chicken, baked sweet potatoes, green corn, cauliflower, plum sauce, cabbage salad, peach pyramid, ice cream and coffee for dinner. Although this provided a well-balanced diet, can you imagine today's diet-conscious families eating all of this?

One particularly interesting recipe in the program was that for Castor Oil Cookies, from Ollie Harlan's collections. This would be a good way now to take that dose of castor oil that is so necessary on occasion. It sounds better than taking it in orange juice or Coca Cola.

Here is how you do it: One cupful each of sugar, molasses and milk, one-half cup castor oil, one-half teaspoon salt, one teaspoon soda and two of ginger, and enough sifted flour to make a dough that can be rolled. There are no directions as to what temperature or how long they should be baked.

The directions say that two or three of these cookies are equal to a dose of castor oil, and children will eat them readily as the oil does not taste. Mrs. Harlan added that she sometimes added a few chopped raisins or placed a raisin on top of each cookie.

REFERENCE

DO NOT CIRCULATE

Vigo County Public Library

Farmer's Chapel

continued

few changes has served the congregation for these many years.

The church suffered a setback in 1942 when the Federal Government took the section of land on which the brick building stood as a defense area for the Vigo Ordnance Plant. The members were forced to scatter but the membership roll was transferred to the Breden Memorial Evangelical Church in Terre Haute.

In July of 1950, after the war ended, the members had the opportunity to buy the property and church building back from the Government. The church was reorganized, and it was unanimously voted that the name of the new church corporation be Farmers Chapel Community Church, an interdenominational church. Before the church was closed in 1942, it had been called the Farmers Chapel Evangelical United Brethren Church.

Since the brick church had been used as a storage building during the time the war plant was in that area, the building was in very bad shape when the congregation bought it back. Much remodeling and redecorating had to be done. Even new pews had to be bought, all of which cost the congregation, which had little money, a great deal.

Many fund-raising events were held and in the Fall of 1950, a Fall Festival was started which became a tradition for about 15 years.

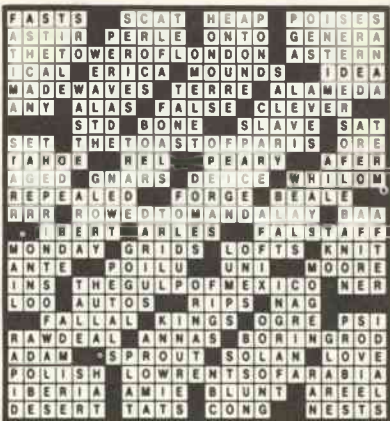
At each festival, a large wood fire was started in the yard of the church and there, in antique copper kettles, apple butter was made and sold. The recipe used was an old one dating back several generations in the family of Mrs. Nina Burnette.

Dinner was served on that day each Fall, and there were booths where the apple butter, homemade mince meat and relishes, fresh vegetables, baked goods, and needlecraft were available. The young people of the church also had a homemade candy booth each year. Many Terre Hauteans and persons from the surrounding area attended each festival.

The church has a chapel, several classrooms and a Junior Department. There are close to 250 members but many others also attend.

These historic community churches seem to survive amid many hardships and are popular for the convenience of worshipers in the areas. This church had a centennial celebration on Sunday, Sept. 25, 1966.

ANSWER TO MERCHANTS SAVINGS ASSOCIATION PUZZLE PAGE 52



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Root's

Higher Ground Christian Center

A colorful gift

Stained glass art graces new church

✓ Churches (w)

18 SEP 18 1986

By Dave Delaney
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

Among the first things members of the soon-to-be completed Higher Ground Christian Center will see when they enter their new church will be a stained-glass version of the white Dove of Peace on a deep-blue background.

The 4- by 6-foot work was done by artist Dick Crawley, who donated the piece to the church, which is two miles east of Sandcut on Rio Grande

Road.

"It was such a gracious thing for him to do," said church pastor, the Rev. Mary Slaven. "We never dreamed he would just give it to us."

Crawley and his wife, Ruth, both Terre Haute natives, now are retired and living in Fort Walton Beach, Fla. They attend Slaven's church during summers.

The 225-member congregation will occupy the new church in October. The church will replace the Fontanet United Brethren Church, which the congregation has outgrown.

Crawley helped build two Pentecostal churches in Florida and has been hired to finish the inside of the new church. He learned carpentry and plumbing while working with the U. S. Prison Services, which included five years at the Terre Haute penitentiary working in construction and maintenance.

"I learned how to do stained-glass windows after taking a course when I was retired," said Crawley, a Gerstmeyer High School graduate. He said it took him three weeks to complete the large stained-glass window.

Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library

REFERENCE
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6-13-84
Macksville Gazette

"His Place" to benefit from Sing

churches (w.v.)

"His Place in the Park," a gospel sing, is scheduled for Saturday, June 16 at Fairbanks park 12-6 p.m. There will be over 22 groups and soloists singing. There will also be food, games, and flea market items.

The sing was organized by people from Terre Haute, Brazil, Farmersburg and the surrounding area who have been meeting for several months making plans toward establishing a Christian Activity Fellowship Center, called **His Place**, according to Ann Burchell, a member of the group.

The first idea was a coffeehouse motif but plans now include a facility which would appeal to all ages.

His Place would be an answer to the complaints that there is nothing to do; there is no place to meet other young Christian adults and to hear Christian music, added Burchell.

A total of \$1,000 has been donated to the project; a proposed site has been found and a group of interested persons have begun meeting each Monday to discuss plans and have formed committees.

A founder's board is headed by Jim Pond of the Big-Brother, Big-Sister Organization; Dick Burchell of Burchell & Son Construction, Inc., who is chairman of the building committee, and Judy Harbaugh heads the fund raising committee.

The next meeting is Monday, July 2 at the Public Service Building, 301 Home Avenue, 6 p.m. There will be a carry-in dinner (drinks and service are provided).

Anyone interested in learning more about **His Place** are invited to attend or write: **His Place**, P.O. Box 3218, Terre Haute, Indiana 47803.

Non-denominational

Vigo County Public Library

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DO NOT CIRCULATE

Community Affairs File

Churches (W.V.)

Hisplace

CHRISTIAN
ACTIVITY CENTER

by Howard Stevens

TH Gazette
4-5-85

A herculean task of renovating and refurbishing an old high school that has seen better days represents a formidable challenge for members of Hisplace, a Christian Activity Center, 3200 Linn Avenue, North Terre Haute.

Ten months ago, Hisplace incorporated and purchased the three-storied former Otter Creek High School building and since that time, they have spent most of their free hours working toward a grand opening in the spring.

One of the first priorities of the group is to put a new roof over the sprawling structure. Rain and melting snow have sent rivers of water cascading down into the bowels of the attached gymnasium and stage.

Dick Burchell, who has his own construction firm, says the old building appears in better shape than center leaders ever expected. A gas fired boiler is operating remarkably well sending heat into every nook of the building, Burchell, a center leader, says.

Although center boosters are quick to point out that members of the 10-member board rule without a specific church affiliation, the center's primary goal "is to enhance the fellowship of Christians and to promote unity between us even though we are so different." The Hisplace news letter goes to 1,200 persons.

The most recent newsletter made it plain that volunteers with expertise are needed. "Plumbers, carpenters, electricians and those with heating experience are needed to do some specialized work at the center. If you are willing to help, meet us at the building. Also, dump trucks or pick-up trucks will be needed to haul away trash to the dump."

"This is not a youth center. We are interested in all ages. We intend to promote and encourage gospel sings as often as possible and offer bible studies for all ages," Burchell says.

Center leaders admit that it will take at least a year to fully develop the center. In 10 months, we have made remarkable progress but more is on the way, they insist.

"Volunteers come from all over the Wabash Valley. We have members from Rockville, Clinton and Farmersburg. Many of our volunteers come from Terre Haute," Burchell reports.

Entertainment at the center will feature many groups and soloists from throughout the area. Groups who have appeared or who will appear in future presentations include the Ambassadors, Heaven's Harmony, Marlene Griffin, Promise, Jackie Potter and others.

Center members are also a talented group, leaders say.

"Steve Bland's song, 'There's a song in my heart,' was chosen best song of the year written by an Indiana Gospel Music Association member. Marvin Clark of the Ambassadors was given the Don Toon Award. We believe in furthering the Gospel through music," Burchell suggests. Heaven's Harmony and Beth Burchell were also winners of

IGMA awards.

Down the road, Hisplace intends to sponsor a giant old school building sale. Tons of abandoned school equipment were left behind when the site was sold by the Vigo County School Corp. and some unusual values will be offered sale visitors.

"Hisplace represents a dream for our

young couples. We hope it becomes a Christian night club and fellowship hall. Donations and pledges are welcome," Burchell stresses.

The place with the unusual name promises lots of excitement. "God is moving in a mighty way in our community. Come be a part of it," Hisplace board members challenge.

Community Affairs File

REFERENCE
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Vigo County Public Library

'His Place' is near

Community Affairs File

T: OCT 7 1984

By Dave Delaney

Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

Tired of hearing, "There's nothing for Christians to do in Terre Haute?"

Cheer up...there's good news, a group of Wabash Valley residents are getting ready to open His Place.

"Christians from Terre Haute and the surrounding area have prayed and worked and longed for a place to meet, to hear Christian music and have Christian fellowship," said Ann Burchell, one of about 30 area Christians who have been meeting since March trying to locate a non-denominational Christian fellowship hall. It would be used by Christians of all ages and could even be pressed into duty as a sort of "Christian nightclub."

They looked at several possibilities, finally settling on the old Otter Creek High School, 3200 Linn Ave.. They hope to get enough contributions and pledges to buy the place for between \$50,000 and \$75,000.

"This all came about after a

group of our young people went to the Corner Stone coffee house in Indianapolis," said Burchell of this Christian meeting center.

"We're real excited about this," continued Burchell, who said hopefully the place they buy could be open all week for musical entertainment, wedding receptions, banquets, youth groups and adults. There would be ping-pong tables and other entertainment apparatus.

"There's quite a following here for Gospel music," continued Burchell. "We intend to bring some quality groups to Terre Haute and also use local talent." She hopes there'd be enough activities at the center to make it self supporting.

Burchell said Christians from many denominations have already expressed interest in His Place. They come from Terre Haute, Clinton, Brazil, Farmersburg and others.

"Hopefully His Place will open this January," said Burchell. "The support we've had on this has really been phenomenal. She said the group believes that Christianity can be an exciting, not a dull life.

Community Affairs File

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Vigo County Public Library

His Place renovation ongoing

Churches (WU)

T 3 AUG 12 1985

Volunteers have toiled since December to renovate His Place Christian Activity Center in the old Otter Creek High School at 3200 Linn Ave.

Even with their efforts, about 90 percent of the work remains on the 3,000-square-foot building, construction businessman and His Place building superintendent Richard A. Burchell said. Completion is about two years away.

Renovation has become a weekly event every Friday night since February. Other work days also are set up. Volunteers number 100 or 150, including church youth groups.

About \$20,000 has been spent in renovation since December, said Burchell, who estimated another \$30,000 will be needed to finish.

Plastering, installing new floors, carpet, a great deal of interior and exterior painting, guttering, new upper and lower sashes for windows, some tuckpointing, and renovating four bathrooms will keep volunteers busy.

"As the building progresses,



Tribune-Star/Jim Avelis

Working: Dick Burchell helps renovate center.

there is more vision seen," Burchell said. He mentioned that a restaurant undergoing remodeling donated 60 chairs and 20 tables.

The big dreams for His Place include a long-range goal of a

Christian nightclub, Burchell said. A more immediate plan would permit renting the building to Christian groups, pending board approval.

Until then, volunteers are put-

ting hammer to nail to renovate the building. A rotted wood gymnasium floor has been removed and a leaky roof replaced.

His Place kept some items from the building, such as a stove and restroom sinks and toilets, Burchell said.

Money for renovation has come from His Place fund-raisers, monthly pledges from churches, and contributions from the 1,500 His Place members on the mailing list, Burchell said. A fund-raiser is scheduled for 8 p.m. Aug. 24 at Indiana State University, featuring the Gospel group Prodigal.

"Larger things are still happening," Burchell said. "We're going to start having in professional talent. We're going to be having some groups on a regular basis," he said.

Membership was about 800 in December, with 30 to 50 members being added each month. Persons wishing to be placed on the His Place mailing list can write to Box 3218, Terre Haute, 47803.



Tribune-Star/Jim Avelis

At work: Rachel Burchell, Dick Burchell, Ann Burchell, Larry Durham and Nikki Durham.

Fellowship hall opens in old school

TS JAN 13 1985

By Dave Delaney
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

Churches (W.V.)

A Christian fellowship hall has opened in Terre Haute.

A group calling itself His Place Christian Activity Center has incorporated and purchased the former Otter Creek High School at 3200 Linn Ave., North Terre Haute. The members have been scrubbing and renovating the place since December with hopes of having a grand opening this spring.

"Our first event was a Birthday for Jesus," said Ann Burchell, one of the people responsible for setting up the center. The participants met Dec. 22 and consisted of a day of gospel music.

"We're planning on opening a coffee house here starting February," explained Burchell. "It'll be youth-oriented and open from 7 to 11 every Friday evening." Live music, ping-pong, and a pool table will be available, along with snacks and soft drinks for sale.

Burchell said the Friday schedule for area youth will continue as long as the teen-agers support it. She said another event on the calendar is a gospel sing slated for 7 p.m. Feb. 23.

"I think we'll be able to get this place renovated sooner than expected," said Burchell. She said the old high school appears in better shape than had been anticipated.

His Place has a newsletter which goes to 1,000 families in the Wabash Valley. Burchell said a number of people have made one-time donations, while others are making monthly pledge payments.

Anyone who wants to get on the mailing list for His Place should write to Box 3218, Terre Haute 47803.

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library

His Place Christian Activity Center

Hisplace



Tribune-Star/Bonnie Jeffery

Sprucing up Hisplace: DePauw University students help clean Christian activity center.

Expansion to make Hisplace northside community center

Churches - (W) - Hisplace

SEP 20 1987

In the future, a major expansion is planned to help Hisplace become a community center for the North Terre Haute area.

Hisplace moved closer to that goal when it got a slight facelift Saturday, as 30 to 40 fraternity and sorority members from DePauw University spent the day landscaping, painting, tuck-pointing and doing minor repairs and major clean-up.

Director Nancy Rooney described Hisplace as a Christian activity center open to all ages and with activities for all ages — non-denominational and non-doctrinaire.

"We avoid controversy. This is neutral ground," Rooney said.

Hisplace is in the former Otter

Creek High School at 3200 Linn Ave., one-half block east and south of the stoplight at the intersection of Lafayette and Park avenues. The third floor of the old school is to be opened as a physical fitness center. Plans include an indoor track, aerobics and gymnastics classes, a sauna, hot tub, tanning booth, weightlifting and a nursery for women who want to attend classes and need to bring their children.

Beginning Monday, Hisplace will begin both volleyball and basketball league play.

Rooney said the fitness center was to be partially funded by a local church, but those involved in Hisplace want it to become partially self-supporting.

"We don't expect to be totally

self-supporting and still welcome pledges and donations," she said. "We operate on donated time and labor and a lot of donated materials."

Fund-raising activities will help with expenses of the expanded program. A benefit golf scramble is set for Oct. 3, and an antique show and flea market on Dec. 6. Also planned is a Super Sub Sandwich Supper with gospel music by "Front Line" and "Heaven's Harmony," local gospel groups.

Other plans call for once-a-month Wabash Valley Sing programs. Rooney said people can come to Hisplace from church and enjoy a carry-in dinner, gospel music and dessert.

Community Affairs File

DO NOT CIRCULATE

Vigo County Public Library

Churches WV

CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

T APR 28 1978
Churches (14)
**Church arranges
to break ground**
Community Affairs File

The Maranatha Alliance Church ground breaking service is set for 12:30 p.m. Sunday at the 2300 block of South 25th Street.

The church, which is now meeting at Schulte High School Chapel, will be erecting a building on the seven and one-half acres.

The Maranatha Alliance Church is an evangelical church belonging to the Christian and Missionary Alliance. Started in November 1976 by the Rev. Nick Bitakis, the church is now averaging about 80 persons at the Sunday morning services.

The church has a Sunday School program, a bus ministry, a youth fellowship, a College and Career Group, and a Women's Missionary Prayer Fellowship.

The public is invited to attend the ground breaking ceremonies.

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Wago County Public Library Community Affairs File

Churches W

S NOV 12 1978



THE REV. NICK BITAKIS AND FAMILY—The Christian and Missionary Alliance Fellowship is opening a church in Terre Haute. The new church, Maranatha Bible Church, is to be pastored by the Rev. Nick Bitakis, a graduate of Moody Bible Institute. "Get Acquainted" gatherings are to be at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 16, Nov. 23, and Nov. 30, at 911 S. 6th St. The first Sunday service is to be Dec. 5 in the Community Education Chapel at Schulte High School. Members of the Bitakis family are, left to right, John, wife Pat, and James.

Maranatha Bible Church

Has 'Get Acquainted' Plans

Maranatha Bible Church is to be Terre Haute's newest church and plans have been made to "get acquainted" with its organizers.

The Christian and Missionary Alliance Fellowship is opening the church in Terre Haute and the Rev. Nick Bitakis has been named church pastor. The Rev. Bitakis is a graduate of Moody Bible Institute and has pastored churches at Mattoon, Ill., and was night pastor-supervisor at Pacific Garden Mission in Chicago. He was also counselor for the national Christian radio broadcast, "Unshackled."

He and his wife, Patricia, have two sons, James, 6, and John, 4.

The new church is to conduct "get acquainted" gatherings Nov. 16, Nov. 23, and Nov. 30 at 911 S. 6th St. Each session is to begin at 7:30 p.m.

The first Sunday service is to be Dec. 5 at the Community Education Chapel at Schulte High School, 2901 Ohio St.

The Alliance is a bible-based

group of Christians whose emphasis is on practical Christian living and gospel outreach at the home and abroad.

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Vigo County Public Library

REFERENCE
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CHRISTIAN

MISSIONARY

ALLIANCE

'The Lord called' for local PTL, leaders say

Churches (WV)
15 MAR 20 1987

By Dave Delaney
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

Recently resigned PTL director Jim Bakker and his wife, Tammy, might be taking their lumps nationally. But in Terre Haute a Bakker-inspired Love Center is being set up.

"We love Jimmy and Tammy more now than ever," said the Rev. Wanda M. Sullins, who is establishing the Love Center at 1935 Elm St. with the Rev. LaDonna J. Ring. "I think they will come back stronger than ever in their ministry."

Ring agrees.

"It took a big man in the Lord to step down," she said. "He stepped down to save the PTL ministry."

About Bakker's alleged sexual encounter, Ring said, "It's wrong of these people to make him [Bakker] face this again. The Lord has already forgiven him for it."

Joseph Samuels — national director of the PTL Love Centers — will return to his hometown at 2 p.m. April 4 to dedicate the center. Samuels is a Wiley High School graduate.

Ring said Mayor P. Pete Chalos will cut the ribbon on the center.

The center will provide donated clothing, food and furniture free to people mired in crisis.

The women said the idea for starting the



Tribune-Star/Bonnie Jeffery

Praise the Lord: The Revs. Sullins, Ring looking toward dedication of center.

Love Center here came from watching PTL on television.

"Dr. Samuels and his wife were very excited to learn that we were starting up a Love Center in Terre Haute," she said.

The two ministers said volunteers are needed to run the center, which will be open seven days a week. Sunday will be for worship service, and the other days are for ministering to area needy.

Both women became ordained ministers through a correspondence course from the World Bible Way Fellowship of DeSoto, Texas. Sullins teaches at Sugar Grove Elementary School.

They will attend a Love Center director's workshop April 28-30 in Charlotte, N.C.

"We'll find out more of what is expected of us," Sullins said.

The two also described newly appointed PTL director the Rev. Jerry Falwell as a good replacement for Bakker.

"He's a good man in the Lord," Sullins said. She also commented on Oral Roberts' claim that he will die by March 31 if \$8 million is not raised for scholarships.

"It's possible the Lord said this to Oral Roberts," she said. "It's not unusual for the Lord to give an ultimatum."

People may donate goods, time or money to the local Love Center by calling the two ministers at 238-1284. Sullins said plenty of poor and needy people live in the Wabash Valley.

"One woman came in with tattered shoes, and one of our workers took off her shoes and gave them to her," Sullins said. "When we bring them food and the kids say, 'Mommy, food, you know they're hungry'."

Ring said they get no grant money for their center, but instead rely on donations.

She added, "Tim and Tammy Bakker didn't call us up to do this ... the Lord did."

Community Affairs File

REFERENCE
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Vigo County Public Library

PTL Love Center opens with hope that good news lies ahead

1st APR 05 1987

All too often, perhaps, "the news" seems to be a dreary chronicle of conflict, crime, tragedy and personal failings.

But at the dedication Saturday of the new PTL Love Center at 1935 Elm St., the focus instead was on joy, love and spiritual victory.

Mayor P. Pete Chalos assisted with a brief ceremonial ribbon-cutting at the door of the building, wishing the Love Center well in efforts to help other people.

Visitors were given small "PTL" pins as they entered the building.

Near the back of the altar, several caged birds chirped melodiously.

Before dedication services began, the Rev. LaDonna J. Ring, one of the ministers at the Love Center, said birds are mentioned in the Bible as being under God's care.

"He takes care of our fowl, and we're here to take care of our

brothers and sisters," she said.

"Praise his holy name!" the Rev. Wanda M. Sullins, second minister at the Love Center, said. "This has been a dream come true. And it wouldn't have come true had it not been for so many wonderful friends helping us."

"We thank the Lord for all of them, for every one of them. This is the Lord's house. It's not our house. It is the Lord's house. We're just the vehicles. We're just the instruments of the Lord."

Sullins said the aim of the center is "to love our fellow man, to take care of our fellow man. And who is our fellow man? Who is our brothers and sisters? Everyone in the world."

"This center is for every church, every denomination, everybody — whether they are Christian or not Christian."

Led by a young girl, those at the

ceremony sang "Jesus Loves Me."

Ring said the dedication was a triumph over tribulation. "We had to face many, many trials — a lot of ridicule," she said. "But our Lord that was in us is greater."

The Rev. Joseph Samuels, national director of the PTL Love Centers, said he attended church and was a deacon in that same building when he was in Terre Haute before becoming a minister with PTL.

Volunteers and friends came to the altar and were anointed by Samuels. "This is the beginning of a work that won't stop till Jesus comes," he said.

The center will be open for people with spiritual or material needs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Services are conducted at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday and at 7 p.m. on Thursday.

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Community Affairs File

Local PTL says it's bankrupt

By Dave Delaney

APR 09 1988

Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

A minister of the now-defunct PTL Love Center at 1935 Elm St. has declared bankruptcy in an effort to get protection from her creditors, according to an attorney involved in the case.

Wanda Marie Sullins, doing business as PTL Love Center, filed for bankruptcy March 28 under Chapter 7 of the federal Bankruptcy Code in U.S. Bankruptcy Court. The center opened in March 1987.

Sullins lists estimated assets of the center at \$551 and liabilities of \$86,800. In the initial newspaper story on the Love Center in March 1987, the ministers said donations of goods, money and time would be accepted from the community.

A follow-up story on the local center described response as "considerable and mostly positive despite the recent notoriety surrounding Jim Bakker's resignation as PTL national director."

Richard W. Lorenz, listed as trustee, will convene an initial meeting of creditors in the Federal Building in Terre Haute before Judge Michael H. Kearns. John A. Kesler is attorney for Sullins. Lorenz said a date for the meeting has not been established, but he assumes it will be in May.

Sullins could not be reached for comment and Kesler said he was requesting his client's request that he, too, not comment on it.

The Love Center opened with Sullins and LaDonna J. Ring as ministers. Ring asked that the newspaper not do a story on the matter, describing it as a personal matter involving Sullins.

Joseph Samuels, national director of the PTL Love Centers, returned to his hometown to dedicate the local Love Center on April 4, 1987. Samuels is still a PTL member, but is no longer national director of the Love Centers.

According to a spokeswoman at PTL headquarters in Charlotte, N.C., two official PTL Love Centers are in Terre Haute. She said one is at the Living Waters Ministry at 1285 Lafayette Ave. where Ring is a minister, while the other one is at 600 Hulman St. — Hulman Street Assembly of God — under the Rev. Randy McVey.

The spokeswoman said the annual Love Center conference took place at Heritage USA in late March and early April and that no representatives from Terre Haute were present.

"I will try to find out how it [PTL Love Center] operated," said Lorenz.

REFERENCE
DO NOT CIRCULATE

Response good to PTL center

✓ Churches
(WV)

Ts MAR 27 1987

By Dave Delaney
Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

Response to Terre Haute's new PTL Love Center has been considerable and mostly positive despite the recent notoriety surrounding Jim Bakker's resignation as PTL national director.

"We had about 25 calls Wednesday morning alone," said the Rev. LaDonna J. Ring, minister of the Love Center, which will open at 2 p.m. April 4 at 1935 Elm St. The Rev. Wanda M. Sullins is the second minister at the soon-to-open center.

Mayor P. Pete Chalos is expected to cut the ribbon at the dedication ceremony.

Joseph Samuels, national director of the PTL Love Centers, also will take part in the ceremony.

Samuels is from Terre Haute.

Ring said, "We've had calls from a lot of people who want to volunteer to help. Every call has been positive but two."

She said one minister called to volunteer his services, and another minister said he is willing to help with carpentry in getting the center ready.

"One lady called and said she'd like to crochet some things for us," Ring said. "Another lady wants to come over and help get the clothing ready."

Sullins said many callers expressed thanks that a PTL organization is coming to Terre Haute.

"One person who called told us he's partially blind, but that he could supervise the carpentry," Sullins said. "There's just been a lot of positive support."

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Community Affairs File

Community
Missionary
Church
Independent

Churches (W.V.)
**Spirit Church now
has new location**

Community Affairs File
The Spirit and Truth Church will be moving from the old Red Shed on Dunlap Road to the Community Mission Church, 2349 N. 25th St., in Terre Haute.

William Wymer is the pastor. Sunday services are conducted at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., with Sunday school at 10 a.m. Wednesday evening service is at 7 p.m. The first service at the new location will be July 22.

T s JUL 1 6 1984

Community Affairs file

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Community Affairs File

Vigo County Public Library



CHURCHES (WV)

Taylor Chapel

STAR STAFF PHOTO/BECKY WALTER

Thousands of motorists have stopped at this interdenominational roadside chapel on U.S. 41 near Farmersburg since its dedication in 1956. The limestone cinderblock structure was built in memory of an Indianapolis brother and sister, Flossie Able and Ralph Taylor, by their family. They were killed in an automobile accident in Galveston, Texas, in 1954. Their brother, Rev. Russell M. Taylor, retired pastor of Morris Street Methodist Church, lives in the house next to the Sullivan County chapel, just a few yards south of the Vigo County line.

While no regular religious services are held there, the chapel is the scene of many weddings. "Even a couple from California were married here," said Rev. Taylor. "We have no way of keeping track (of the number of visitors) because not all sign the registry. But we have six big books filled with names of people from nearly every state and from 14 foreign countries." Community Affairs File

It comfortably seats 18, but as many as 50 wedding guests have crowded inside. The cross-shaped structure is one of the few chapels in the country specifically built beside a highway for the convenience of motorists. It is open 24 hours a day and the tall steeple is lighted at dusk welcoming motorists no matter what the hour. "Our doors are never locked," Rev. Taylor explained, "and we have never had any vandalism. People respect it very well."

Churches WV
Breden Mem. / Farmers Chapel U.A.

Since this merger Breden Memorial Church has paid all of its outstanding indebtedness. The members will celebrate this fact and the twentieth anniversary of the building of the present church with appropriate services next Sunday. Bishop H. H. Fout, who dedicated both Breden Memorial and Farmer's Chapel Church, will have charge of the services.

The former pastors of each church have been invited to be present and all will be heard at the afternoon service. There are nine former pastors of Farmer's Chapel and two of Breden Memorial.

Farmer's Chapel Church was organized in the home of John Owen, about one mile southeast of the present site of the church, in the year 1866. The frame church was erected near the Owen homestead about 1870. This church house was moved to the present location in 1875. The new brick church was erected in 1919 at a cost of \$18,000, with J. L. Brandenburg, pastor, and George Stout, Charles Harlan and Herman Harlan, board of trustees.

The Terre Haute Third Church was organized in the Spring of 1839. Mother Jones was the founder of this church. The same year that the class was organized a lot was purchased on the corner of Third and Grant streets, where a frame church was erected in the year 1860. In the year 1908 the church was enlarged at a cost of \$1,000.

The name of the church was changed in August, 1920, to Breden Memorial, in honor of the Rev. C. C. Breden. Breden Memorial Church was erected at the corner of Seventh and Morton streets under the pastorate of the Rev. J. A. Bray and completed under the pastorate of the Rev. W. A. Settle.

WILL CELEBRATE CHURCH MERGER

Star 4/19/44
Breden Memorial-Farmer's
Chapel Members Plan Special
Observance Sunday.

The merging of Breden Memorial and Farmer's Chapel United Brethren churches has been completed. The merger took place when Mrs. Stella Nelson, representing the Farmer's Chapel trustees, turned over to V. L. Hewitt, president of the Breden Memorial trustees, the resources and membership of Farmer's Chapel Church.

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

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Community Affairs File

Churches (WV)
Barbour Ave. U.B./
Methodist

Church to Mark
T.H. Star
Annual Men's Day
OCT. 14 1954



JUDGE H. E. ACHOR

Judge Harold E. Achor, outstanding Christian layman of Anderson, will be the speaker for the annual Men's Day service Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock at the Barbour Avenue Evangelical United Brethren Church. The speaker is the brother of the pastor, the Rev. Homer W. Achor.

The Men's Day service will be presided over by Don Rector, brotherhood president. Special music will be given by a volunteer men's chorus, directed by Charles Dorsey; an instrumental duet by John Conover and Jerry Achor and a young men's quartet composed of Albert Franklin Stevens, Larry McGrew, Joe Webb and Jerry Achor. Prayers will be offered by Oscar Ditzenberger and by the pastor and the scripture lesson from II Corinthians 5:14-21 will be read by Tommy White. Judge Achor will use as his subject, "The Layman and His Christian Witness."

Judge Achor has received the A. B. and LL. D. degrees from Indiana Central College and the LL. B. degree from Indiana University law school. After several years of practicing law he held two terms as judge of the Superior Court of Madison County and is now completing a four-year period as judge of the Appellate Court of Indiana. At present he is serving as a board member of Anderson College and of the Associated Colleges of Indiana. He is past president of the Anderson Lions Club.

The men of Barbour Avenue have extended an invitation to the public to attend this special service.

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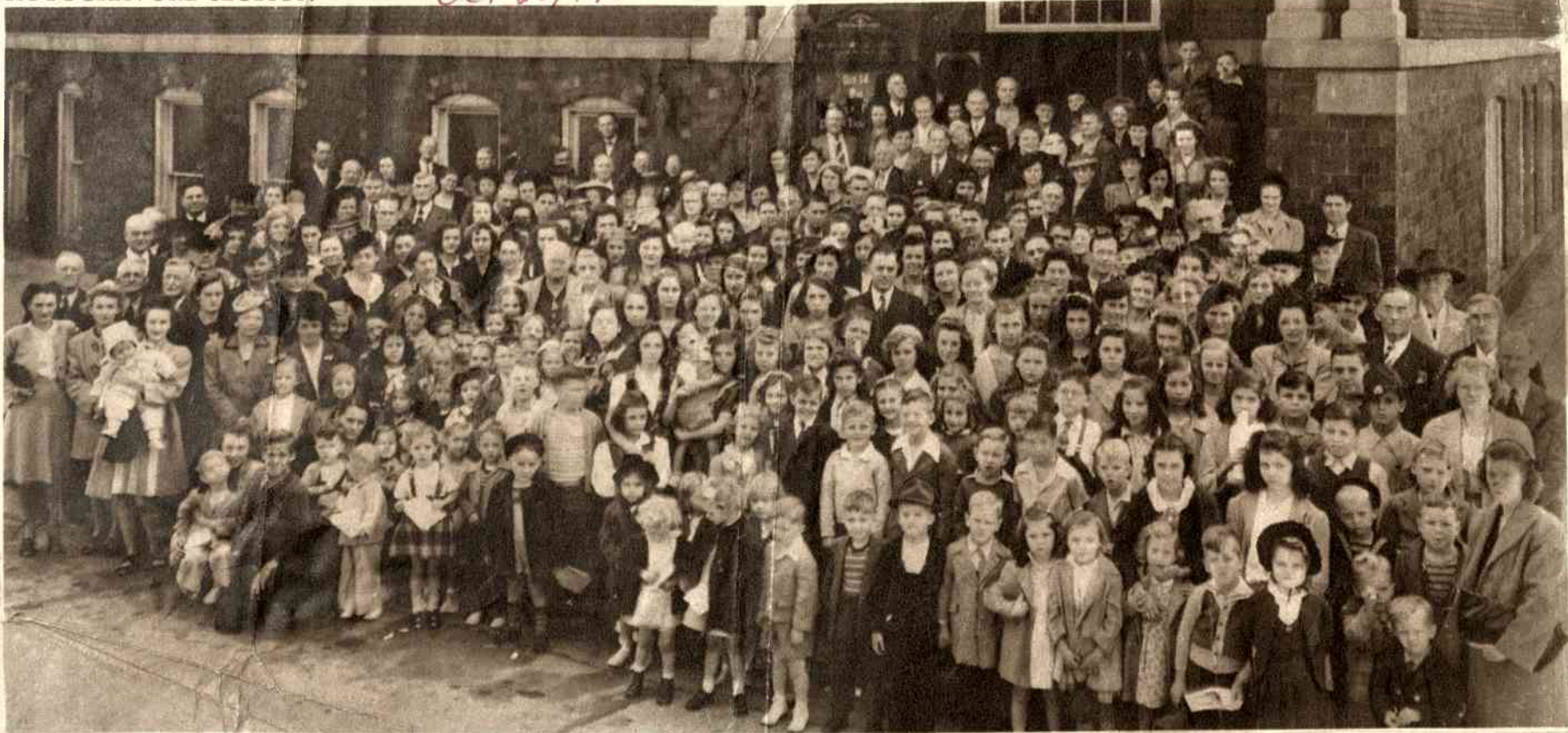
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Churches (WH)
Barbour Meth.

ROTOGRAVURE SECTION

Oct 28, 1945

THE TERRE HAUTE TRIBUNE AND THE TERRE HAUTE SUN



BARBOUR AVENUE UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH is scene of Rally Day exercises. This large congregation took part.

Community Affairs File

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

Churches in
World Gospel

Churches (74)

**Church to mark
25th anniversary**

World Gospel church
will celebrate its 25th
anniversary and Home-
coming this weekend,
with Dr. Charles Lake as
speaker.

All members and
former members of
World Gospel are invited
to attend the three-day
program. A carry-in din-
ner will be held at noon
Sunday, with a special
program at 12:45 p.m.

Dr. Lake, former
pastor of World Gospel
Church here, has served
in various capacities
with the Oriental Mis-
sionary International, a
faith mission from 1968
to 1977. He is the found-
ing pastor of Community
Church of Greenwood,
Ind., which started in
1977 and now has a mem-
bership of 700.

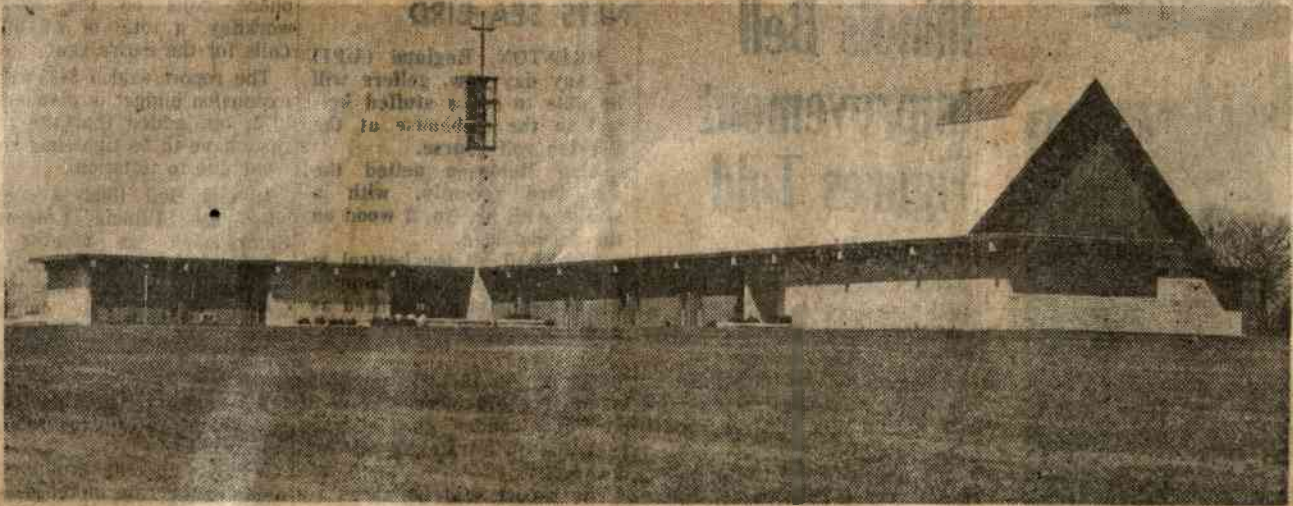
He is a graduate of
Asbury College,

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Community Affairs File



THE WORLD GOSPEL CHURCH WHERE DEDICATION CEREMONIES WILL BE HELD SUNDAY

Dedication Service Sunday At World Gospel Church

Rev. Milton K. Leidig, pastor of the World Gospel Church, 900 Gardendale Rd., has announced plans for the dedication service of the new educational and fellowship building. The service will be held Sunday, at 2:30 p.m. at the church.

The World Gospel Church was born in the heart of the founding pastor, Rev. Carl F. Pruderman. In 1955 after a three months' tour of the Latin America mission fields he returned to share his vision and burden with a small group of people. In July, 1956, a meeting was called to form a corporation for a church to be called The World Gospel Church.

The first church services were held the first Sunday in January, 1957, at 3206 Wabash Ave.

The church was founded for the purposes of world evangelism and missions. At the first service the support of a missionary couple was taken. Since that day the missionary support has been extended to 21 countries supporting 85 missionaries with faith promises of \$112,000

for 1972. Groundbreaking for the new unit was held on Sept. 5, 1971. The building has a total of 9,760 square feet. There are 12 classrooms on the lower level. The upper level is equipped with a modern kitchen and a fellowship hall seating 500 or dining for 325 people. Another black-top parking lot was constructed to park 50 additional cars. The cost of this new unit is \$221,860.

The World Gospel Church now has 23,300 square feet of facilities including 26 classrooms, auditorium seating for 540 with overflow seating for 160 additional people. Thirteen acres of property with a modern parsonage and ballfield are a part of the growth since its beginning in 1957.

Dr. Wesley Duwel, president of The Oriental Missionary Society and the Rev. Carl Waggoner of The World Gospel Mission will participate in the dedication services.

The church is located at 900 Gardendale Road at State Road 46.

MAR 9 1972

Missions Goal At \$140,000

World Gospel Church opens its 18th Annual Missionary Convention Sunday, Oct. 6.

The 8-day convention emphasizes the cause of world missions and extending Christ's Gospel to the 3 billion of the world's population who have never heard the message of Christianity. The theme of the missionary week is "Let The Earth Hear His Voice." Mrs. Jean Capin, song writer, is writing the words and music for the convention.

Of the 103 missionaries presently supported by the church 25 of these will be returning with their wives and family reporting their missionary work. Those are coming are: Loal Ames, Norene Hohensee, Ellen Pfirman, Nancy Proctor, Steve Aldrich, Ray Hundley, Carl Hayes, Hudson Hess, Billy Harrell, Dale Neff, Edna Kuba, Dennis Probst, Richard Adkins, Ernest Stuary, Lester Finkbeiner, Holis Abbott, Pearl Akers, Keith and Charlotte Brown, Dorothy Cassle, Frank Gorsline, Carl Johnson, Bill Mayo, and J. T. Seamands. They represent missionary work from around the world in many countries. In the opening worship service at 10:30, October 6 the missionaries will be introduced to the congregation. Dr. J. T. Seamands, Professor of Missions at Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, Mo., will be the speaker. Dr. Seamands spent 20 years in India before assuming his present position. He is the author of several books including "The Supreme Task of Missions" and "On Tiptoe With Joy". He will be speaking nightly at 8 p.m. through Tuesday.



JIMMY LENTZ

Wednesday evening, Oct. 9 at 8 p.m. through Sunday, Oct. 13. Dr. Jimmy Lentz, outstanding pastor, missionary evangelist and vice president of The World Gospel Mission, Marion, Ind., will be the principle speaker.

Other scheduled daily services are: Missionary Bible Study at 10:30; missionary luncheons, 12:00; missionary films and reports, 7:00. These services are open to the public. Anyone desiring to attend the luncheons is asked to call the church office for reservations.

Other features of the week are the ladies' missionary dinner, Oct. 8 at noon, the youth missionary banquet, Oct. 12 at 4:30 p.m. and the men's missionary breakfast, Oct. 12 at 6:30 a.m.

An added feature to the convention this year is the pastor's seminar, Oct. 11-13. A number of pastors from various church backgrounds and states will be trained on methods of developing missionary churches that are involved in missions at home and abroad.

On the closing day of convention, Oct. 13, the congregation will be challenged once again to make their individual and family faith promises toward the \$140,000 goal for mission support for 106 missionaries serving in 21 countries.

The World Gospel Church is located at State Road 46 and 900 Gardendale Road. Milton K. Leidig and Doug Weeks serve as the pastors of the church.

The church is located at State Road 46 and 900 Gardendale Road.

Milton K. Leidig and Doug Weeks serve as the pastors of the church.

Churches wv
World Gospel

Community Affairs File

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Community Affairs File

Churches (TH)



JOSEPH L. GREGORY



DOUGLAS W. WEEKS

Gregory, Weeks to Be Ordained

Praising God for over during which the 12 recognized
\$1,000,000 given for foreign leaders of the church will follow
missions, the members of World the biblical custom of laying
Gospel Church will celebrate their hands on Gregory and
the church's 18th anniversary Weeks to ordain them for
at 9:30 a.m. on Jan. 5 at World Christian ministry.

The celebration will be high- Gregory, whose parents re-
lighted by the ordination of side in Rosedale, was gradu-
Joseph L. Gregory and Douglas ated from Garfield High School
W. Weeks into the pastor- in 1962.

teacher ministry. Gregory is a graduate of
In 1956, the World Gospel Moody Bible Institute in Chi-
Church was organized in a cago. He's majoring in social
home by a handful of committed studies at Indiana State Uni-
Christians. They accepted a goal versity while pastoring the
of supporting 60 missionaries in Fontanet Church of God. He
their first 10 years. Within nine and his wife, Rita (Pound),
years they took the personal are appointed to Rhodesia,
support of 61 missionaries. Africa, under The Evangelical
Alliance Mission upon the com-
pletion of his schooling.

This year the members are seeking \$145,000 to help support 107 missionaries. The church gives three missionary dollars for each dollar spent locally.

Pastor Milton K. Leidig will conduct the anniversary service

Weeks serves now as associ-
ate pastor in World Gospel
Church. He pastored an inner
city church in Detroit before
getting his master's degree in
journalism which led to three
years of writing and teaching
in the Philippines as a mis-
sionary under Overseas Cru-
sades.

"Though others from our
church have already gone out
as pastors and missionaries,
these two men are the first

to be ordained by World Gospel many more pastors and mis-
Church," comments Pastor Lei sionaries from the World Gospel
dig, who envisions sending Church.

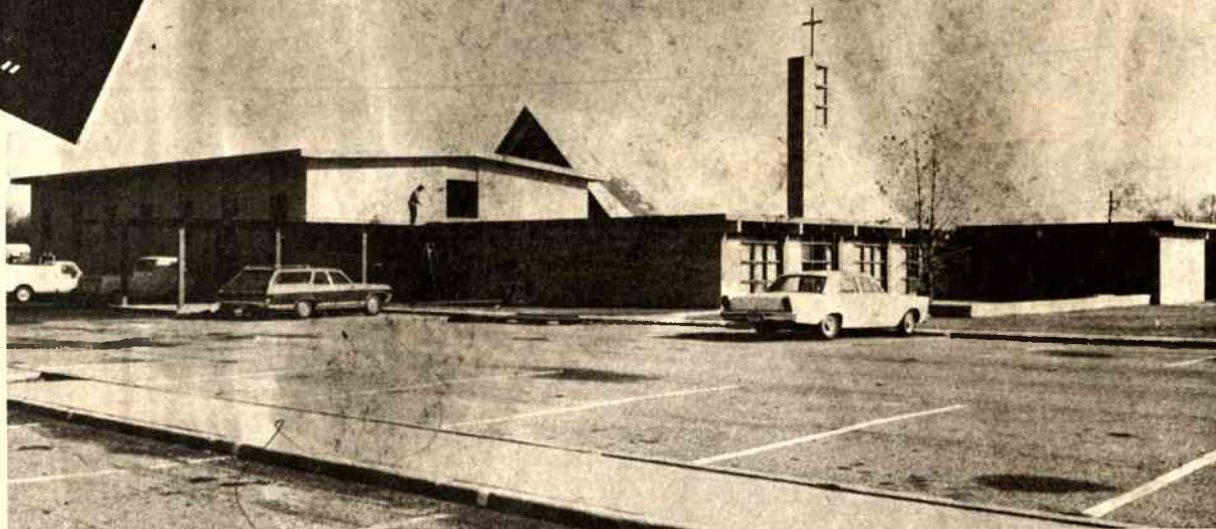
Community Affairs File
DO NOT CIRCULATE

World Gospel Church - 900 Gardendale Road

January 7, 1973



DURING 1972 the World Gospel Church completed a new addition. It is located at 900 Gardendale Road.



THE WORLD GOSPEL CHURCH added a large section to its building in 1971. The church is located east of the city near Highway 46 at 900 Gardendale Road.

REFERENCE
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Churches WV
Rev- / Interdenom.

CONT ON THE BACK

Drive-in church?

World Gospel acknowledges era of auto with popular summer outdoor services

churches (wv)

T 1111 1 1985

By George Wardell

Tribune-Star Staff Reporter

To anyone driving down Indiana 46 on Sunday evening, it sounded like an outdoor rock concert, but it wasn't. It was the first in a series of outdoor services conducted by the Rev. Helmut Schultz at the World Gospel Church, 900 Gardendale Road.

Certainly, conditions were right for such a service. The sun was bending toward the horizon and a gentle southwest breeze kept the congregation cool in the bucolic setting.

Mike Dragon, one of the church's deacons, said the outdoor services have never been rained on in the five years they have been conducted.

The outdoor services will continue for the next four Sundays. And the religious music sung to a contemporary beat will be there too. Pam Blesch, music coordinator for the church, said next week's program will include local musicians. Sunday evening's music came from PKB & Co., a group from Evansville.

The group's music was a curious mixture of soft rock, soul and spiritual. It wasn't bad on the ears, either, as one member of the congregation remarked.

Schultz said the idea of a drive-in church came from California.

"The Rev. Bob Schuler, founder of the famed Crystal Cathedral, built the foundation of his church in rented drive-in movies and we thought it would work here — and it has," Schultz explained.

Mobile America lives on wheels. Persons have automobile access to nearly every service that man needs — banks, restaurants, movies and, finally, churches.



Tribune-Star/Jim Avelis

In tune: Woodridge Boys play variety of music at services.

The church's pastor said the drive-in concept has been used for the past five years and has been very successful.

"By doing this, we are trying to appeal to people's love for the outdoors. And we give them — the congregation — a chance to come to church informally," said Schultz, who has been the church's minister for the past four years and a missionary in Japan for 25 years before that.

Apparently the idea has appeal. Many church members could be seen wearing blue jeans and tapping their toes to the

beat of the music.

Blesch said one year a girl was driving by and she liked the music so well that she drove in and stayed for the service.

One of the church's elders, Al Jackson, said he enjoys the setting and the music very much. Two other elders, Frank Pilcher and Rex Crowder, concurred with Jackson about the format.

The church's members seem to echo the appreciation.

"I enjoy being outdoors, hearing the witnesses and the informal atmosphere," said Lois Schreck.